

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**CUSTOMER NO. 22927**

Applicants: Walker *et al.*  
Application No.: 09/345,092  
Filed: June 30, 1999  
Title: VENDING MACHINE SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
ENCOURAGING THE PURCHASE OF PROFITABLE ITEMS

Attorney Docket No.: 98-119

Group Art Unit: 3622  
Examiner: Tri V. Nguyen

***Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 – Expedited Procedure  
Technology Center 3600***

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE  
to the Final Office Action mailed August 29, 2006**

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed August 29, 2006, please enter the following amendment and consider the following remarks. As the amendment presented herein places the application in condition for allowance at least because it “merely cancels claims, adopts examiner suggestions, [and/or] removes issues for appeal”, the amendment is respectfully requested to be entered as a matter of right pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b) and MPEP §§714.12, 714.13.